

WHAT IS CLAIMS

CLAIMS 1-15 (DELETED)

15 CLAIM 16. (currently amended) A compact mobile vacuum [boring and mud
recovery] method comprising the steps of: having a compact arrangement means
to minimize the surface footprint of a system, [comprising] said compact mobile
20 vacuum arrangement means having a vacuum [debris] container, and a liquid
storage container, said vacuum [debris] container being mounted at an inclined
slope sufficient to allow solids or liquids to be emptied from said vacuum container
by gravity and said liquid storage container [to be] being mounted below said
incline of said vacuum [debris] container.

CLAIM 17. (currently amended) A mobile surface cleaning or excavating vacuum [

25 boring and mud recovery] method comprising the steps of: having a compact
arrangement means to minimize the surface foot print and to concentrate the
weight of a system, [comprising] said mobile vacuum arrangement means having
a vacuum [debris] container, and a liquid storage container, said vacuum [debris]
container being mounted at an inclined slope sufficient to allow [debris] solids and
30 liquids to empty from said [debris] vacuum container by gravity and to provide
space for said liquid storage container to be mounted below said incline of said
vacuum [debris] container and further comprising the steps of: having a means of
mounting a filter housing adjacent to said vacuum [debris] container so as to allow

5 a single door access to both said filter housing and said vacuum [debris] container,
and providing a means of producing a vacuum within said vacuum container and
said filter housing having connecting conduits to flow air from said vacuum
[debris] container through said filter housing to said vacuum producing means,
and said filter housing having filters disposed within it to remove [debris] solids
10 from said air.

CLAIM 18.(currently amended) A mobile vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method
comprising the steps of: having a compact arrangement means to minimize the
surface foot print of a system, said mobile vacuum arrangement means having
15 [comprising] a vacuum [debris] container, a filter housing, and a liquid storage
container, said vacuum [debris] container being mounted at an inclined slope
sufficient to allow solids and liquids to be emptied from said vacuum container by
gravity and said liquid storage container [to be] being mounted below said incline
of said vacuum [debris] container and said filter housing being at an incline slope
20 mounted adjacent to said vacuum [debris] tank. [liquid storage container being
configured so as to add structurally support to said vacuum debris container.]

CLAIM 19.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of
claim 16, further comprising the steps of having said liquid storage container be
configured so as to add structurally support to said vacuum debris container. [be
25 formed congruent with said debris tank.]

CLAIM 20. (currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method as
described in claim 16, further comprising the steps of: having a means of
mounting a vacuum blower, an air filter, a [pressure] water pump and [a power

5 plant] an engine on a mobile platform. [on a common unitized mounting support
base.]

CLAIM 21.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method as
described in claim 16, having a [unitized common] support base adjacently
mounted, and said support base comprising one or more devices selected from the
10 group consisting of a vacuum blower exhaust muffler, base mount for a vacuum
pump, base mount for a power plant, base mount for a water pump, hydraulic
reservoir, hydraulic pump, vacuum pump, air filter, water pump, boom arm,
trailer and [or] fuel reservoir.

15 CLAIM 22.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method as
described in claim 16, further comprising the steps of: having [a means of
mounting] a vacuum air filter housing mounted adjacent to said vacuum[debris]
container. [so as to allow a single door access to both the filter housing and said
vacuum debris container.]

20 CLAIM 23.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method as
described in claim 17 [22], further comprising the steps of: having a means to
open or close, said vacuum debris container access door using a telescoping
means disposed within said vacuum debris container, said telescoping means
being one or more devices selected from the group consisting of a hydraulic
25 cylinder, air cylinder and a [or] linear actuator.

CLAIM 24.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method as
described in claim 18 [16], further comprising the steps of: having a means of

5 separating liquids from solids comprising a vibrating screen disposed within said vacuum container.

CLAIM 25.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of claim 24, further comprising the steps of: having a means to dispense a liquid from said vacuum container without eliminating the vacuum environment within
10 said vacuum container.

CLAIM 26.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of claim 18 [16], further comprising the steps of: having a means to dispense liquids and solids from said vacuum container without eliminating the vacuum environment within said vacuum container.

15 CLAIM 27.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of claim 24 [25], further comprising the steps of: having a means to dispense a solid from said vacuum container without eliminating the vacuum environment within said vacuum container.

CLAIM 28. (currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of claim 18 [16], further comprising the steps of: having [a vacuum conduit means to vacuum liquids or solids into said vacuum debris container, and said vacuum debris conduit being mounted adjacent to] an articulated boom arm mounted adjacent to said vacuum container, and said articulated boom having one or more elbows and arms.

25 CLAIM 29. (currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of claim 28, further comprising the steps of: said [vacuum conduit being disposed within the structural support members of said] articulated boom arm having a means to

5 attach tools comprising one or more devices selected from the group consisting
of: a vacuum hose with vacuum hose end attachments, a water pressure hose with
spray nozzle attachments, an air hose with air tool attachments, an electric cord
with plug ins for electric power tools, hydraulic hoses with hydraulic tool
attachments, an excavation bucket, a surface cleaner, a grinder, a pump, a torque
10 wrench, a sensor to detect buried utilities, and a man hole cover removal means.

CLAIM 30. (currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of
claim 29, further comprising the steps of: said boom arm comprising one or more
of a device selected from the group consisting of: a powered rotating knuckle, a
15 powered rotating elbow, a powered telescoping boom, a powered lifting arm, a
remote control system and [or] an earth digging bucket mounted adjacent to said
boom.

CLAIM 31.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of
claim 28 [29], further comprising the steps of: said boom arm having adjacently
20 mounted one or more of devices selected from the group consisting of a hydraulic
torque wrench, 360 degree rotating elbow, 360 degree rotating knuckle,
telescoping vacuum conduit, earth digging bucket, earth penetrating utility sensor,
earth penetrating utility locator, man hole cover remover, high pressure water
demolition means, sand blasting attachments, water jetter nozzle, vacuum conduit
25 tractor, concrete cutting means, asphalt cutting means, surface cleaning
attachments, vibrator excavation means, aerodynamic rotary water jet surface
cleaner, multiple rotary pulse water nozzles arranged around the circumference of
the suction end of a vacuum conduit, and pressurized water conduit.

5 CLAIM 32.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of claim
25, further comprising the steps of: having a means to recycle said dispensed
water from said vacuum container to [a] an end use pressurized spray nozzle, said
dispensed water recycler having one or more devices selected from the group
consisting of: a water pump, a water conduit, a water spray nozzle, a vibrating
10 filter, a liquid container, [or pressurized] a water pump, a water filter, and a rotary
spray surface cleaner,

CLAIM 33.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of
claim 25, further comprising the steps of: having a means to recycle said liquid to
15 a surface cleaning means having one or more devices selected from the group
consisting of: a water pressure spray nozzle, a means to direct said nozzle to
impinge said surface to be cleaned, a housing to contain said liquid spray, a
vacuum conduit attachment to said housing, a vacuum conduit to vacuum said
sprayed liquid from said surface to said vacuum container.

20 CLAIM 34.(**currently amended**) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of
claim 29, further comprising the steps of: attaching an excavation bucket on [the]
an end of said boom arm and providing a telescoping vacuum conduit [an
extension] arm connected to the end of said vacuum conduit for removing debris,
25 said telescoping [extension] arm being provided with a means to spray liquid in
order to loosen debris.

5 CLAIM 35.(currently amended) A vacuum [boring and mud recovery] method of
claim 16, 17 or 18 further comprising the steps of: providing a mobility means
chosen from the group consisting of mounting said vacuum [boring and mud
recovery] method on [one of] a powered zero-turn radius vehicle, a powered track
mobile vehicle, a track hoe, a back hoe, a trailer, a skid mount, an attachment for
10 a skid steer, an attachment for a fork lift, a truck mounted unit, and a rail road car
mounted unit.

CLAIM 36 (NEW) A vacuum method of claim18, further comprising the steps of:
having a vacuum producing means, a vacuum conduit to vacuum solids and
liquids into said vacuum container and said vacuum conduit having a first end
15 mounted to said vacuum container and a second end of said vacuum conduit
having an attachment means for a surface cleaner, a screen disposed within said
vacuum container to separate solids from liquids, a means to dispense a liquid
from said vacuum container without eliminating the vacuum environment within
said vacuum container, and a pump to transfer liquid under pressure from said
20 liquid storage container to said surface cleaner.

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